

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application, wherein claims 1-12 have been amended to correct typographical and/or translation errors. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the above-identified amendments in addition to the remarks filed on May 16, 2006.

Claims 1-12 are patentable over the applied art for at least those reasons presented in the response filed on May 16, 2006. The application is in condition for allowance. Notice of same is earnestly solicited. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Penny Caudle (Reg. No. 46,607) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By Michael K. Mutter
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